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SECURITY INFORMATION  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY German Democratic Republic

DATE OF  
INFORMATION 1950

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SUBJECT Economic - Agricultural, VEG plan fulfillment

DATE DIST. 21 Apr 1952

NO. OF PAGES 4

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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FULFILLMENT OF 1950 GDR AGRICULTURAL PLAN  
FOR VEG, EXCLUSIVE OF BERLIN

The soil utilization survey of 3 June 1950 indicated that the cultivated area was increased to 147,300 hectares, or 5.2 percent more than the planned 139,900 hectares. This was accomplished by the expropriation of farms as well as by conversion of grassland to cultivated land.

## A. Crops

The following table shows the planned cultivated area, the actual area, and the deviation from the plan in percentage.

|                                 | <u>Planned Area</u><br>(ha) | <u>Actual Area</u><br>(ha) | <u>Deviation</u><br><u>From Plan</u><br>(%) |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Winter crops                    | 46,900                      | 47,680                     | 1.7   |
| Grain                           | 41,710                      | 42,740                     | 2.5   |
| Wheat                           | 13,450                      | 14,370                     | 6.8   |
| Rye                             | 22,290                      | 22,730                     | 2.0   |
| Winter oleaginous plants        | 5,190                       | 4,940                      | -4.8  |
| Summer crops                    | 92,560                      | 98,370                     | 6.3   |
| Grain and legumes               | 28,760                      | 33,540                     | 15.2  |
| Legumes (for human consumption) | 3,860                       | 4,440                      | 15.0  |

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|                             | <u>Planned Area</u><br>(ha) | <u>Actual Area</u><br>(ha) | <u>Deviation</u><br><u>From Plan</u><br>(%) |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Leguminous fodder plants    | 5,140                       | 5,340                      | 3.9   |
| Sugar beets                 | 11,260                      | 11,940                     | 6.0   |
| Oleaginous plants           | 1,690                       | 2,550                      | 50.9  |
| Fiber plants                | 2,750                       | 2,140                      | -22.2                                       |
| Tobacco                     | 120                         | 120                        | --  |
| Potatoes                    | 19,500                      | 20,460                     | 4.9   |
| Vegetables                  | 8,900                       | 8,750                      | -2.0  |
| Root fodder crops           | 6,130                       | 6,070                      | -1.0  |
| Field fodder crops          | 11,240                      | 12,230                     | 8.8   |
| Medicinal and kitchen herbs | 2,100                       | 570                        | -73.9                                       |
| Green manure                | 410                         | 700                        | 70.7  |
| Uncultivated land           | --                          | 550                        | --  |

Causes varied for the plan deviations. The winter oleaginous crop area was reduced because of frost damage. The area planted in legumes was increased to improve the quality of the soil and particularly as green manure for rape. The leguminous fodder area was increased to assure the fodder supply for the increasing number of livestock; the sugar-beet area was increased for the same reason and to make the VEG more profitable.

The summer crop area was increased to offset the loss of winter oil seeds as well as to improve the fat supply. The area cultivated with fiber plants was decreased because the demand for fiber (Faserlein) was reduced. The potato area was increased to improve the fodder situation for the pigs and to improve the difficult financial situation. Since the sale of fresh vegetables was uncertain because of the improved living conditions, the vegetable area was decreased. The root fodder crop area was decreased, and that of field fodder plants increased because of the high protein requirement of cattle. The decrease in the area planted with medicinal and kitchen herbs was due to the organizational weaknesses of the contract partners [sic]. The amount of area to be green manured was increased to improve the light and very light soil.

The VVG (Federation of People-Owned Farms) contributed the following share to the 1949 - 1950 seed increase.

|                   | <u>Percent</u> |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Grain and legumes | 32.6           |
| Oleaginous plants | 55.3           |
| Potatoes          | 17.7           |
| Sugar-beet seeds  | 47.3           |

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The seed production plan for grain was exceeded by 0.7 percent; for legumes, 4.8 percent; and for fiber plants, 91.9 percent.

The plan to increase the potato crop was fulfilled 99.2 percent; the plan to increase the sugar-beet crop, 91.7 percent; and the plan to increase the harvest of oil seeds, 97.1 percent.

#### B. Livestock

The livestock plan was fulfilled as follows:

| <u>Livestock</u> | <u>Planned</u> | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Deviation<br/>From Plan (%)</u> |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Horses           | 13,000         | 15,400        | 18.5                               |
| Beef cattle      | 58,000         | 56,100        | - 3.3                              |
| Cows             | 17,000         | 18,100        | 6.5                                |
| Pigs             | 80,000         | 94,500        | 18.1                               |
| Sows             | 12,000         | 11,400        | - 5.0                              |
| Sheep            | 130,000        | 132,800       | 2.2                                |
| Ewes             | 66,000         | 72,400        | 9.7                                |

The deviation from the plan in respect to horses was caused by the lowering of the average age of the horses and good breeding results. The biological prerequisites were lacking to achieve the planned goal for beef cattle; besides the poor breeding results, Bang's disease and sterility of certain herds also caused a decrease in numbers. As a result of the breeding of heifers, the plan for cows was exceeded. The sale of older sows caused the decrease in the number of sows. The breeding results even in prize herds varied considerably (according to Land results on hand). For example, Brandenburg, raised only 12 out of every 15 pigs born, a loss of 17.8 percent. Sheep as well as ewes increased because of good breeding results.

#### C. Comparison of VEG Yields With Others

The situation in the VEG has improved decidedly. This is shown by the following hectare yields in comparison with the hectare yields of other farms:

|  | <u>VEG<br/>(kg)</u> | <u>All Other Farms<br/>(kg)</u> |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Grain and legumes                        | 2,510               | 2,090                           |
| Oil seeds, not including<br>fiber plants | 1,500               | 1,070                           |
| Potatoes                                 | 19,000              | 18,120                          |
| Sugar beets                              | 29,000              | 27,310                          |

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The productivity of cattle raising shows good results in comparison with other farms.

|   | <u>VEG</u> | <u>All Other Farms</u> |
|---|------------|------------------------|
| Milk yield per cow per year,<br>in kg       | 2,898      | 2,130.5                |
| Egg yield per chicken per year              | 103        | 93                     |
| Slaughter weight of beef cat-<br>tle, in kg | 215        | 181                    |
| Slaughter weight of pigs,<br>in kg          | 98         | 100                    |

The low slaughter weight of the pigs was a result of the sale of breed sows and boars.

The work productivity must continually improve to realize the Ministerial Council's plan to make the VEG profitable in 1951.

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